

CLAIMS

1. A relay for use in telecommunications equipment, said relay comprising:

- 5 • a receiver (R) adapted to receive an information stream consisting of information cells, some of which can be empty,
- a mixer (M) adapted to detect the empty information cells and replace them with waiting cells, and
- 10 • a transmitter (E) adapted to transmit the information cells to a receiver outside said telecommunications satellite,

which relay is characterized in that it further comprises a stream analyzer (A) for determining if an information stream received by said receiver is a real-time information stream or a differed-time information stream and for storing differed-time information stream cells in a mass memory (MM) and in that said mixer is adapted to choose said waiting cells from among the cells stored in said mass memory.

2. A relay according to claim 1, further comprising a deleter (D) for deleting an information cell stored in said mass memory when it has been sent by said transmitter to said receiver.

3. A relay according to either preceding claim, wherein said mixer is adapted to choose said waiting cells as a function of time scheduling rules.

4. A method comprising the steps of:

- receiving an information stream made up of information cells, some of which can be empty,
- detecting empty information cells,
- 35 • replacing said empty information cells with waiting cells, and
- transmitting information cells,

which method is characterized in that it further comprises the steps of:

- determining if an information stream is a real-time information stream or a differed-time information stream, and
- storing differed-time information stream cells, and in that said waiting cells are chosen from among the stored information cells.

5 10 5. A method according to the preceding claim, further comprising a step of deleting a stored information cell when it has been sent.

15 6. A method according to either claim 4 or claim 5, wherein in said waiting cells are chosen as function of time scheduling rules.